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ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.  
35-95-010.1

PATENT APPLICATION  
Serial No. 09/456,647

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Howard et al.  
Serial No.: 09/456,647  
Filing Date: December 8, 1999  
Group Art Unit: 2163  
Examiner: Romain Jeanty  
Title: ELECTRONIC PUBLICATION DISTRIBUTION  
METHOD AND SYSTEM  
Attorney Reference 35-95-010.1

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BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS  
AND INTERFERENCES

Assistant Commissioner  
for Patents  
BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS  
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Washington, D.C. 20231

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STATUS REQUEST

Sir:

Applicants respectfully inquire about the status of the above-identified patent application, which is currently before the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences, pursuant to an appeal. Applicants received from the Examiner a Communication mailed January 24, 2002, which indicated that the PTO file for this application was being forwarded to the Board for a decision on the appeal. Since then, Applicants have heard nothing further. Applicants respectfully request confirmation that the PTO file for this application has in

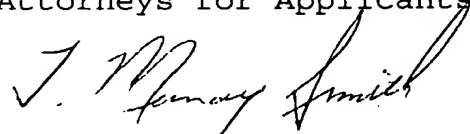
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fact reached the Board and is scheduled for consideration. Further, Applicants request notice of the approximate date on which the Board expects to issue a decision, so that Applicants can docket an appropriate follow-up date.

Respectfully submitted,  
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Date: July 12, 2002

Encl: Post Card